Madhura Tamhankar, Scheie Eye Institute, University of Pennsylvania

Madhura Tamhankar, MD is a Professor of Ophthalmology at the Scheie Eye Institute, University of Pennsylvania where she has been on faculty since 2007. She has fellowship training in Neuro-ophthalmology and in addition specializes in adult strabismus surgery. A leader in both clinical care and research, Dr. Tamhankar's research interests are in thyroid eye disease (TED) and giant cell arteritis (GCA).

In 2018, she founded the region's only comprehensive TED Program in collaboration with oculoplastics, offering multidisciplinary care and serving as a hub for national referrals. She leads several clinical trials evaluating innovative therapies, including Teprotumumab, Satralizumab, Efgartigimod, and novel agents from Viridian Therapeutics. She serves as a national advisor to companies including Amgen, Genentech, Argenx, and Viridian, and is analyzing real-world data from the IRIS Registry to better understand TED's natural history and treatment outcomes.

Dr. Tamhankar also plays a central role in advancing the diagnosis of giant cell arteritis (GCA) through imaging research. She co-directs Penn's GCA Fast Track Program and collaborates internationally on NIH-funded MRI biomarker studies, aiming to prevent irreversible blindness by improving early diagnosis.

A passionate educator, she has mentored over 30 fellows, 85 residents, and numerous students. She is the primary surgical instructor in adult strabismus and has earned teaching awards for her excellence in education. She lectures nationally and internationally, and develops structured teaching programs in neuro-ophthalmology.

Dr. Tamhankar holds key leadership positions, including Chair of the Neuro-Ophthalmology Society at the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) and examiner for the American Board of Ophthalmology. She also contributes to national competency standards by authoring educational content and organizing major symposia.

Her career is driven by a commitment to advancing clinical trials, improving diagnostics, mentoring future leaders, and shaping national policies in ophthalmology.